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IN THE CLAIMS

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1. (Currently Amended) An actuator assembly including a motor having a body portion, and a drive shaft, ~~the drive shaft being drivably connected to a pinion and a pinion directly fixed to the drive shaft to always rotate in unison with the drive shaft, the pinion drivingly engaging an array of gear teeth of a gear rack, the array of gear teeth having a first side adjacent the motor, in which and the gear rack is pivotally mounted via a pivot about a pivot axis on said first side of the array of gear teeth.~~

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2. (Currently Amended) The actuator assembly as recited in ~~Claim claim~~ 1 in which the pivot axis passes through the body portion.

3. (Currently Amended) The actuator assembly as recited in ~~Claim claim~~ 1 in which the pivot axis is proximate ~~that an~~ end of the motor remote from the pinion.

4. (Currently Amended) The actuator assembly as recited in ~~Claim claim~~ 1 in which the gear rack includes at least one stop to limit movement of the rack relative to the body portion.

5. (Currently Amended) The actuator assembly as recited in ~~Claim claim~~ 4 in which each stop engages the drive shaft.

6. (Currently Amended) The actuator assembly as recited in ~~Claim claim~~ 5 in which each stop engages a portion of the drive shaft on the side of the pinion remote from the motor.

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7. (Currently Amended) The actuator assembly as recited in ~~Claim~~ claim 4 in which the drive shaft passes between the array of gear teeth and a guide portion proximate the gear teeth.

8. (Currently Amended) The actuator assembly as recited in ~~Claim~~ claim 7 in which the guide portion is supported by each stop.

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9. (Currently Amended) The actuator assembly as recited in ~~Claim~~ claim 1 which further includes a housing in which the motor is secured.

10. (Currently Amended) The actuator assembly as recited in ~~Claim~~ claim 9 in which the pivot is mounted on the housing.

11. (Currently Amended) The actuator assembly as recited in ~~Claim~~ claim 9 in which the pivot includes a boss of the gear rack to which in use a lever is attached.

12. (Currently Amended) The actuator assembly as recited in ~~Claim~~ claim 11 in which the boss at least partially projects through the housing.

13. (Currently Amended) The actuator assembly as recited in ~~Claim~~ claim 9 in which the drive shaft engages the housing.

14. (Currently Amended) The actuator assembly as recited in ~~any one of Claim~~ claim 9 in which the housing is substantially sealed.

15. (Currently Amended) The actuator assembly as recited in ~~any one of Claims~~ claim 9 in which the housing has at least a first and second part, the parts having co-operating cut-outs to provide for at least one end of the drive shaft.

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16. (Currently Amended) The actuator assembly as recited in ~~Claim claim~~ 1 in which the pivot is mounted on the body portion.

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17. (Currently Amended) An actuator assembly including a motor having a body portion and a drive shaft, the drive shaft being drivably connected to and a pinion directly fixed to the drive shaft to always rotate in unison with the drive shaft, the pinion drivingly engaging an array of gear teeth of a gear rack with the gear rack mounted for movement on the body portion.

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18. (Currently Amended) The actuator assembly as recited in ~~Claim claim~~ 17 in which the motor is an electric motor.

19. (Cancelled)

20. (New) An actuator assembly comprising a motor having a body portion and a drive shaft, the drive shaft being drivably connected to a pinion, the pinion drivingly engaging an array of gear teeth of a gear rack pivotally mounted for movement about a pivot axis, the array of gear teeth having a first side adjacent the motor and at least one stop engaging the drive shaft to limit movement of the gear rack relative to the body portion.